



The South Africa I know, the home I understand

Statistical release

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Tourism and Migration

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Preface

This monthly statistical release provides information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa in July 2014. Specific focus is on foreign tourists who entered the country during this month. The tourists are classified by region and country of residence. Details of their mode of travel; purpose of visit; and age and sex distribution are also provided.

PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

1. Key findings

1.1 Travellers

1.1.1 Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 3 209 023 travellers (arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry in July 2014. As presented in Table 1 on page 8, these travellers were made up of 947 167 South African residents and 2 261 856 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 500 622 arrivals, 445 854 departures and 691 in transit. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers were 1 164 444, 1 025 994 and 71 418, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in June 2014 and July 2014 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers, whereas the volume of departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. The travellers in transit decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers. The volume of arrivals for South African residents increased by 22,2% (from 409 635 in June 2014 to 500 622 in July 2014) while departures decreased by 3,1% (from 460 188 in June 2014 to 445 854 in July 2014) and travellers in transit decreased by 8,8% (from 758 in June 2014 to 691 in July 2014). Foreign arrivals increased by 5,1% (from 1 108 229 in June 2014 to 1 164 444 in July 2014), foreign departures increased by 0,6% (from 1 020 173 in June 2014 to 1 025 994 in July 2014) and foreign travellers in transit increased by 5,1% (from 67 953 in June 2014 to 71 418 in July 2014).

Detailed information on the departures of travellers is not available in the movement control system. Data on the purpose of travel and the number of days South African residents intend to spend or spent abroad are not collected by the DHA. Hence, it is not possible to categorise South African residents as tourists and non-tourists. However, some data are available on foreign arrivals for this categorisation.

As presented in Table 1, in July 2014, 38 896 (3,3%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 125 548 (96,7%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. arrivals only – comprising of visitors who entered the country in July 2014 but did not depart in July 2014 [373 496 (33,2%)];
- ii. single trips – visitors who came once in July 2014 and left in July 2014 [414 504 (36,8%)]; and
- iii. multiple trips – visitors who came and left more than once in July 2014 [337 548 (30,0%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In July 2014, there were 401 349 (35,7%) same-day visitors and 724 199 (64,3%) tourists. Between June 2014 and July 2014, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 0,7% (from 398 551 in June 2014 to 401 349 in July 2014) and tourists increased by 7,7% (from 672 726 in June 2014 to 724 199 in July 2014).

1.1.2 Mode of travel

Data presented in Table 2 on page 9 show that in July 2014, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 358 671 (73,5%) out of the 3 209 023 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 843 028 (26,3%). The arrivals data for South African residents show that 195 543 (39,1%) came by air and 304 913 (60,9%) came by road. For departures, 155 379 (34,8%) and 290 199 (65,1%) used air and road transport respectively. All travellers in transit used air transport (691).

In the case of foreign travellers, 220 166 (18,9%) arrived by air while those who came by road were 940 722 (80,8%). When departing South Africa, 199 831 (19,5%) foreign travellers left by air whilst 822 837 (80,2%) left by road. All travellers in transit used air transport (71 418). Table 2 further shows that an overwhelming majority [381 434 (95,0%)] of same-day visitors arrived in the country by road. Only 19 892 (5,0%) same-day visitors flew into the country. Data on tourists show that, 539 171 (74,5%) used road transport while 184 925 (25,5%) came by air.

1.2 Tourists

1.2.1 Mode of travel

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them according to their respective countries and regions. Information on the specific region and country of residence of the tourists and the mode of travel used to enter South Africa is provided in Table 3 on page 10. In July 2014, 139 008 (87,2%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air whilst 20 272 (12,7%) came in by road. This is in contrast to the number of tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries who came into South Africa predominantly by road [517 544 (94,1%)]. Only 32 239 (5,9%) tourists from the SADC countries came in by air. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 12 715 (91,4%); with 1 184 (8,5%) using road transport.

1.2.2 Regional and national distribution

In July 2014, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows; Europe, 86 579 (54,3%); North America, 33 122 (20,8%); Asia, 21 684 (13,6%); Australasia, 10 862 (6,8%); Central and South America, 4 257 (2,7%); and Middle East, 2 864 (1,8%). Virtually all tourists from Africa came from the SADC countries, [549 783 (97,5%)]. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: West Africa, [7 765 (1,4%)]; East and Central Africa, 5 554 (1,0%); and North Africa 595 (0,1%).

Data presented in Figure 1 on page 6 indicate that the United States of America (USA), 29 446 (18,5%); United Kingdom (UK), 25 120 (15,8%); The Netherlands, 14 465 (9,1%); Germany, 11 128 (7,0%); Australia, 9 077 (5,7%); France, 8 833 (5,5%); China, 6 645 (4,2%); India, 6 221 (3,9%); Italy, 4 339 (2,7%) and Belgium, 3 989 (2,5%) were the ten leading overseas countries visiting South Africa in July 2014. Tourists from these ten countries constituted 74,8% of all tourists from overseas countries.

The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2014 were Zimbabwe, 163 037 (29,7%); Lesotho, 123 257 (22,4%); Mozambique, 98 182 (17,9%); Swaziland, 68 756 (12,5%); Botswana, 42 406 (7,7%); Namibia, 15 344 (2,8%); Zambia, 14 283 (2,6%); Malawi, 14 081 (2,6%); Angola, 3 560 (0,6%) and DRC, 2 642 (0,5%) (see Figure 2 on page 6). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 99,2% of all tourists from the SADC countries.

The ten leading countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in July 2014 from 'other' African countries, as shown in Figure 3 on page 7, were Nigeria, 5 284 (38,0%); Kenya, 1 927 (13,8%); Ghana, 1 440 (10,3%); Uganda, 1 000 (7,2%); Gabon, 844 (6,1%); Ethiopia, 675 (4,9%); Cameroon, 426 (3,1%); Congo, 333 (2,4%); Egypt, 277 (2,0%); and Côte d'Ivoire, 171 (1,2%). Tourists from these ten countries constituted 89,0% of all tourists from 'other' African countries.

1.2.3 Purpose of visit

As observed from data shown in Table 4 on page 14, in July 2014, a majority of tourists [687 041 (94,9%)] were in South Africa for holidays compared with only 25 184 (3,5%) and 11 974 (1,7%) of tourists who were in South Africa for business and for study purposes respectively. A detailed analysis reveals that of all the tourists from each of the overseas regions, at least 92,0% came to South Africa for holidays. A total of 10 583 (97,4%) tourists from Australasia; 31 969 (96,5%) from North America; 4 089 (96,1%) from Central and South America; 81 370 (94,0%) from Europe; 2 689 (93,9%) from Middle East and 20 095 (92,7%) from Asia were in South Africa for holidays. Asia (5,4%) and Middle East (4,0%) had a higher proportion of tourists who came to South Africa for business. Europe (2,2%) had a higher proportion of student tourists compared to other overseas regions.

The majority of African tourists [535 142 (94,9%)] came to South Africa for holidays. However, there were differences between tourists from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries namely:

- Whereas 522 717 (95,1%) of tourists from the SADC countries were on holidays; 12 425 (89,3%) of tourists from 'other' African countries came for the same purpose. Data on the regions of 'other' African countries show that tourists on holidays constituted 92,4% (7 172); 85,5% (4 748) and 84,9% (505) for West Africa; East and central Africa and North Africa, respectively.
- Business persons constituted 4,4% (619) of tourists from 'other' African countries and 3,4% (18 931) from the SADC countries. North Africa had the highest proportion [7,2% (43)] of its tourists in South Africa for business.
- Students made up 6,3% (870) of tourists from 'other' African countries compared with 1,5% (8 135) from the SADC countries. East and Central Africa had the highest proportion [9,4% (520)] of student tourists in South Africa.

1.2.4 Sex and age distribution

Table 5 on page 18 shows that in July 2014, there were 404 114 (55,8%) male and 320 082 (44,2%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 87 222 (54,7%) male tourists and 72 146 (45,3%) female tourists. There were 307 051 (55,8%) male and 242 730 (44,2%) female tourists from the SADC countries. The tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 9 166 (65,9%) males and 4 747 (34,1%) females.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups: those younger than 15 years, 15 to 64 years, and 65 years and older. The overall results presented in Table 5 show that 41 178 (5,7%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 659 667 (91,1%) were aged between 15 and 64 years; and 23 354 (3,2%) were aged 65 years and older.

Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results further show that 132 085 (82,9%) of overseas tourists were aged between 15 and 64 years compared with 513 755 (93,4%) and 12 711 (91,4%) of tourists in the same age range from the SADC countries and 'other' African countries respectively. The proportion of tourists aged less than 15 years was slightly higher among tourists from overseas [9,7% (15 538)] than among tourists from SADC countries [4,5% (24 650)] and those from 'other' African countries [7,0% (978)].

A comparison of the three regions shows relatively high proportions of the elderly among both male [7,4% (6 454)] and female [7,3% (5 291)] tourists from overseas. This is in contrast to the pattern observed among tourists from the other two regions. Thus, 1,7% (5 145) of male and 2,6% (6 233) of female tourists from the SADC countries were aged 65 years and older. Likewise 1,7% (152) of male and 1,5% (73) of female tourists from 'other' African countries were aged 65 years and older.

2. Figures

Figure 1 – Number of tourists from the ten leading overseas countries in July 2014

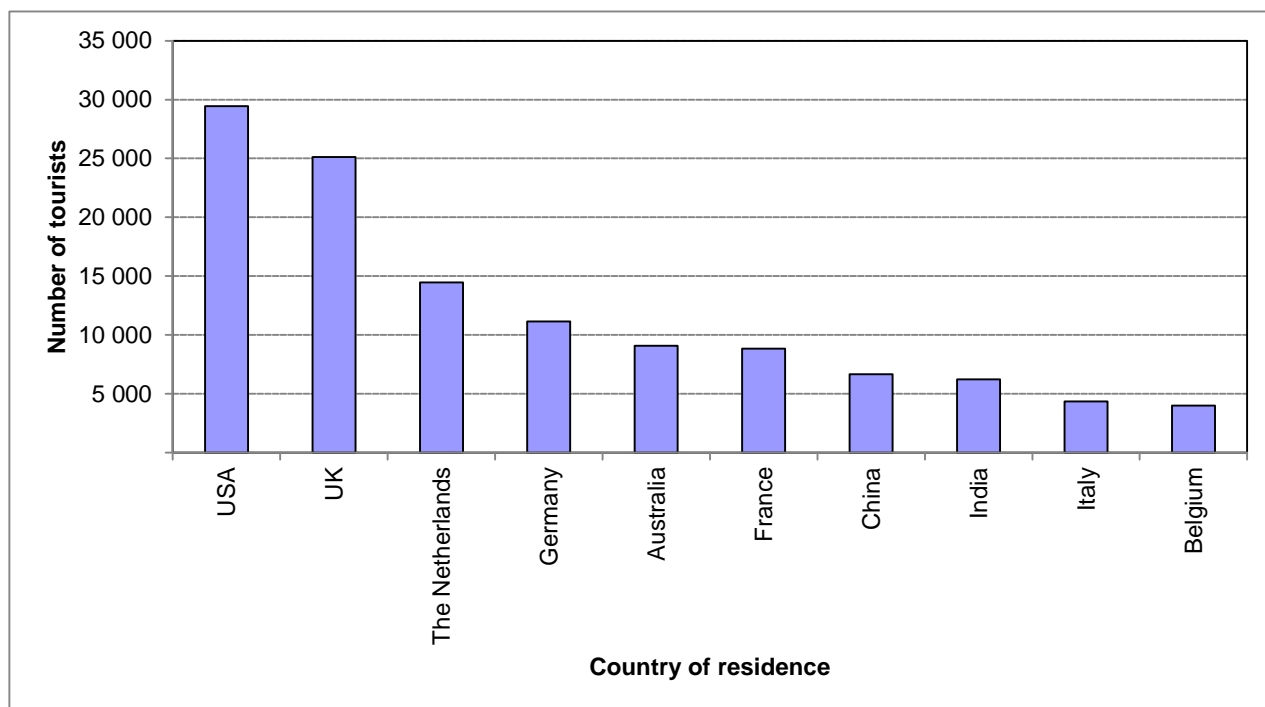


Figure 2 – Number of tourists from the ten leading Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries in July 2014

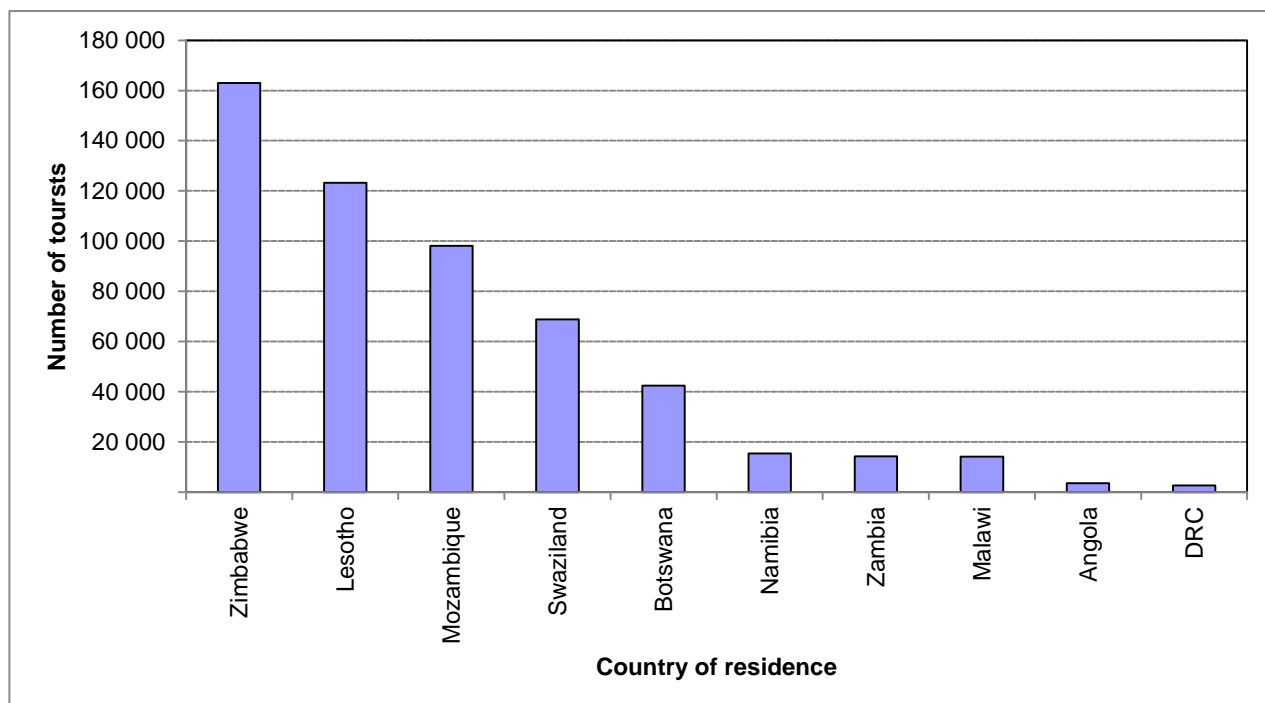
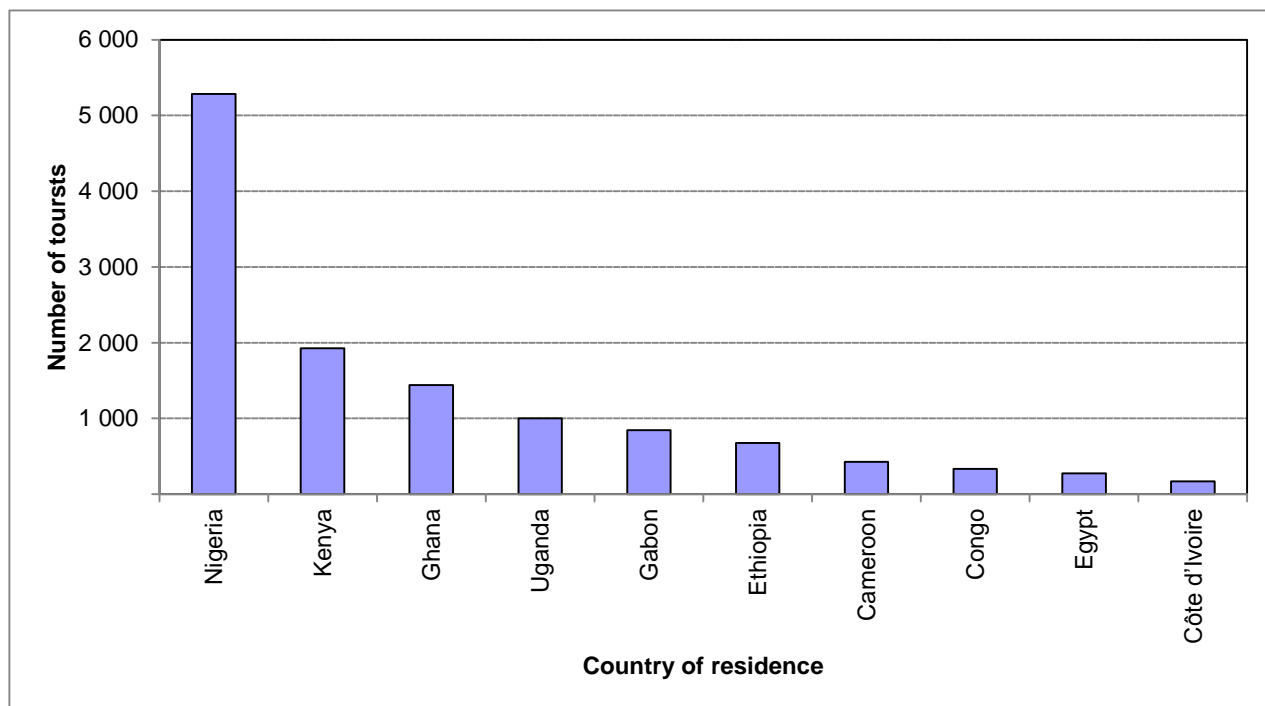


Figure 3 – Number of tourists from the ten leading 'other' African countries in July 2014

3. Tables

Table 1 – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	June	July	% change
	2014	2014	June 2014 – July 2014
Total	3 066 936	3 209 023	4,6
South African residents	870 581	947 167	8,8
Arrivals	409 635	500 622	22,2
Departures	460 188	445 854	-3,1
Transit	758	691	-8,8
Foreign travellers	2 196 355	2 261 856	3,0
Arrivals	1 108 229	1 164 444	5,1
Departures	1 020 173	1 025 994	0,6
Transit	67 953	71 418	5,1
Foreign arrivals	1 108 229	1 164 444	5,1
Non-visitors	36 952	38 896	5,3
Visitors	1 071 277	1 125 548	5,1
Visitors	1 071 277	1 125 548	5,1
Arrivals only	323 305	373 496	15,5
Single trips	412 035	414 504	0,6
Multiple trips	335 937	337 548	0,5
Visitors	1 071 277	1 125 548	5,1
Same day	398 551	401 349	0,7
Overnight (tourists)	672 726	724 199	7,7

Table 2 – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel

Travel Direction	Total	Mode of travel (July 2014)						
		Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	3 209 023	89 531	24 427	720 723	8 347	843 028	2 358 671	7 324
South African residents	947 167	42 674	17 157	286 389	5 393	351 613	595 112	442
Arrivals	500 622	23 679	9 737	159 405	2 722	195 543	304 913	166
Departures	445 854	18 995	7 420	126 293	2 671	155 379	290 199	276
Transit	691	-	-	691	-	691	-	-
Foreign travellers	2 261 856	46 857	7 270	434 334	2 954	491 415	1 763 559	6 882
Arrivals	1 164 444	25 378	3 933	189 622	1 233	220 166	940 722	3 556
Departures	1 025 994	21 479	3 337	173 294	1 721	199 831	822 837	3 326
Transit	71 418	-	-	71 418	-	71 418	-	-
Visitors	1 125 548	23 347	3 144	177 420	906	204 817	920 605	126
Same day	401 349	254	4	19 519	115	19 892	381 434	23
Overnight (tourists)	724 199	23 093	3 140	157 901	791	184 925	539 171	103

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel

Country of residence	Total	Mode of travel (July 2014)						
		Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Total	724 199	23 093	3 140	157 901	791	184 925	539 171	103
Overseas	159 368	20 471	2 728	115 157	652	139 008	20 272	88
Europe	86 579	13 427	2 092	58 025	161	73 705	12 794	80
Austria	1 317	192	25	865	1	1 083	234	-
Belgium	3 989	387	32	2 641	16	3 076	913	-
Denmark	1 388	136	25	1 084	-	1 245	142	1
France	8 833	1 149	73	6 299	11	7 532	1 299	2
Germany	11 128	1 386	219	7 952	6	9 563	1 565	-
Ireland	1 656	342	67	1 041	6	1 456	200	-
Italy	4 339	827	106	3 007	13	3 953	386	-
Norway	986	184	9	617	-	810	176	-
Portugal	2 739	222	49	1 255	10	1 536	1 202	1
Spain	2 459	451	26	1 693	19	2 189	270	-
Sweden	1 083	161	8	774	3	946	137	-
Switzerland	2 538	376	71	1 769	7	2 223	314	1
The Netherlands	14 465	2 499	279	8 284	3	11 065	3 400	-
UK	25 120	4 013	994	17 897	59	22 963	2 084	73
Other	4 539	1 102	109	2 847	7	4 065	472	2
North America	33 122	3 210	253	26 025	377	29 865	3 256	1
Canada	3 676	459	51	2 682	9	3 201	475	-
USA	29 446	2 751	202	23 343	368	26 664	2 781	1
Central and South America	4 257	186	15	3 538	28	3 767	490	-
Argentina	248	9	-	221	-	230	18	-
Brazil	2 466	63	3	2 089	5	2 160	306	-
Mexico	470	55	1	380	16	452	18	-
Other	1 073	59	11	848	7	925	148	-

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (continued)

Country of residence	Total	Mode of travel (July 2014)						
		Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Australasia	10 862	500	54	8 989	55	9 598	1 264	-
Australia	9 077	366	39	7 533	52	7 990	1 087	-
New Zealand	1 766	131	15	1 442	3	1 591	175	-
Other	19	3	-	14	-	17	2	-
Middle East	2 864	405	20	2 311	4	2 740	124	-
Israel	1 397	35	-	1 274	3	1 312	85	-
Kuwait	186	70	-	115	-	185	1	-
Saudi Arabia	589	69	4	516	-	589	-	-
Other	692	231	16	406	1	654	38	-
Asia	21 684	2 743	294	16 269	27	19 333	2 344	7
China	6 645	866	39	5 274	2	6 181	464	-
India	6 221	361	133	4 886	11	5 391	828	2
Indonesia	613	271	4	320	3	598	13	2
Japan	2 170	181	26	1 869	5	2 081	89	-
Malaysia	772	248	12	478	-	738	34	-
Pakistan	708	43	27	358	-	428	280	-
Philippines	584	161	9	316	-	486	95	3
South Korea	1 532	156	20	1 132	-	1 308	224	-
Taiwan	579	49	-	452	-	501	78	-
Other	1 860	407	24	1 184	6	1 621	239	-
Africa	563 697	2 607	410	41 798	139	44 954	518 728	15
SADC	549 783	2 425	382	29 302	130	32 239	517 544	-
Angola	3 560	691	5	2 700	4	3 400	160	-
Botswana	42 406	101	2	1 908	32	2 043	40 363	-
DRC	2 642	3	3	2 071	-	2 077	565	-
Lesotho	123 257	1	1	445	2	449	122 808	-
Madagascar	199	1	-	189	-	190	9	-

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (continued)

Country of residence	Total	Mode of travel (July 2014)						
		Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
Malawi	14 081	13	-	1 490	12	1 515	12 566	-
Mauritius	1 209	118	54	932	2	1 106	103	-
Mozambique	98 182	7	41	3 253	28	3 329	94 853	-
Namibia	15 344	1 410	-	2 679	17	4 106	11 238	-
Seychelles	245	1	-	242	-	243	2	-
Swaziland	68 756	-	4	505	-	509	68 247	-
Tanzania	2 585	10	1	1 506	-	1 517	1 068	-
Zambia	14 283	13	118	3 554	7	3 692	10 591	-
Zimbabwe	163 037	56	153	7 828	26	8 063	154 974	-
'Other' African	13 914	182	28	12 496	9	12 715	1 184	15
East and Central Africa	5 554	72	3	4 947	8	5 030	524	-
Burundi	87	-	-	79	-	79	8	-
Cameroon	426	6	-	381	1	388	38	-
Central African Republic	11	-	-	11	-	11	-	-
Chad	30	-	-	24	4	28	2	-
Comoros	12	2	-	7	-	9	3	-
Congo	333	2	-	313	-	315	18	-
Djibouti	2	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	46	-	-	44	-	44	2	-
Eritrea	42	7	1	30	-	38	4	-
Ethiopia	675	14	-	617	3	634	41	-
Gabon	844	14	-	827	-	841	3	-
Kenya	1 927	16	2	1 688	-	1 706	221	-
Reunion	3	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
Rwanda	95	1	-	78	-	79	16	-
Sao Tome and Principe	11	-	-	11	-	11	-	-
Somalia	10	1	-	9	-	10	-	-
Uganda	1 000	5	-	827	-	832	168	-

Table 3 – Number of tourists by country of residence and mode of travel (concluded)

Country of residence	Total	Mode of travel (July 2014)						
		Air					Road	Sea
		Cape Town	King Shaka	O.R. Tambo	Other	Total		
West Africa	7 765	67	15	7 056	1	7 139	611	15
Benin	170	1	-	165	-	166	4	-
Burkina Faso	48	-	-	41	-	41	7	-
Cape Verde Island	47	3	1	36	-	40	7	-
Côte d'Ivoire	171	3	-	164	-	167	4	-
Gambia	53	-	-	47	-	47	6	-
Ghana	1 440	14	8	1 332	-	1 354	86	-
Guinea	120	1	1	57	-	59	61	-
Guinea-Bissau	14	-	-	8	-	8	6	-
Liberia	32	-	-	29	-	29	3	-
Mali	42	-	1	18	-	19	23	-
Mauritania	58	-	-	58	-	58	-	-
Niger	20	-	-	18	-	18	2	-
Nigeria	5 284	43	4	4 849	-	4 896	388	-
Saint Helena	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Senegal	154	-	-	146	-	146	8	-
Sierra Leone	54	-	-	51	-	51	3	-
Togo	43	2	-	37	1	40	3	-
North Africa	595	43	10	493	-	546	49	-
Algeria	51	3	1	41	-	45	6	-
Egypt	277	13	2	240	-	255	22	-
Libya	40	16	3	14	-	33	7	-
Morocco	52	5	3	42	-	50	2	-
South Sudan	61	-	-	57	-	57	4	-
The Sudan	68	2	1	59	-	62	6	-
Tunisia	45	4	-	39	-	43	2	-
Western Sahara	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Unspecified	1 134	15	2	946	-	963	171	-

Table 4 – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit

Country of residence	Total	Purpose of visit (July 2014)		
		Business	Holiday	Study
Total	724 199	25 184	687 041	11 974
Overseas	159 368	5 606	150 795	2 967
Europe	86 579	3 320	81 370	1 889
Austria	1 317	44	1 251	22
Belgium	3 989	89	3 835	65
Denmark	1 388	52	1 308	28
France	8 833	319	8 391	123
Germany	11 128	479	10 032	617
Ireland	1 656	86	1 550	20
Italy	4 339	248	4 016	75
Norway	986	22	889	75
Portugal	2 739	64	2 644	31
Spain	2 459	124	2 316	19
Sweden	1 083	52	990	41
Switzerland	2 538	54	2 419	65
The Netherlands	14 465	255	14 005	205
UK	25 120	1 091	23 653	376
Other	4 539	341	4 071	127
North America	33 122	692	31 969	461
Canada	3 676	104	3 538	34
USA	29 446	588	28 431	427
Central and South America	4 257	101	4 089	67
Argentina	248	9	234	5
Brazil	2 466	48	2 389	29
Mexico	470	14	451	5
Other	1 073	30	1 015	28

Table 4 – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit (continued)

Country of residence	Total	Purpose of visit (July 2014)		
		Business	Holiday	Study
Australasia	10 862	214	10 583	65
Australia	9 077	188	8 835	54
New Zealand	1 766	26	1 731	9
Other	19		17	2
Middle East	2 864	114	2 689	61
Israel	1 397	59	1 320	18
Kuwait	186	-	186	-
Saudi Arabia	589	3	575	11
Other	692	52	608	32
Asia	21 684	1 165	20 095	424
China	6 645	323	6 212	110
India	6 221	456	5 666	99
Indonesia	613	7	602	4
Japan	2 170	114	2 048	8
Malaysia	772	16	754	2
Pakistan	708	44	648	16
Philippines	584	17	545	22
South Korea	1 532	65	1 376	91
Taiwan	579	22	542	15
Other	1 860	101	1 702	57
Africa	563 697	19 550	535 142	9 005
SADC	549 783	18 931	522 717	8 135
Angola	3 560	80	3 009	471
Botswana	42 406	472	41 107	827
DRC	2 642	55	2 372	215
Lesotho	123 257	3 684	118 764	809
Madagascar	199	13	173	13

Table 4 – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit (continued)

Country of residence	Total	Purpose of visit (July 2014)		
		Business	Holiday	Study
Malawi	14 081	201	13 741	139
Mauritius	1 209	51	1 058	100
Mozambique	98 182	8 626	89 381	175
Namibia	15 344	2 202	11 496	1 646
Seychelles	245	11	222	12
Swaziland	68 756	388	67 143	1 225
Tanzania	2 585	65	2 368	152
Zambia	14 283	938	13 018	327
Zimbabwe	163 037	2 145	158 867	2 025
'Other' African	13 914	619	12 425	870
East and Central Africa	5 554	286	4 748	520
Burundi	87	5	76	6
Cameroon	426	21	357	48
Central African Republic	11	1	10	-
Chad	30	2	25	3
Comoros	12	1	11	-
Congo	333	6	303	24
Djibouti	2	1	1	-
Equatorial Guinea	46	1	32	13
Eritrea	42	1	40	1
Ethiopia	675	35	623	17
Gabon	844	3	769	72
Kenya	1 927	151	1 564	212
Reunion	3	-	3	-
Rwanda	95	2	72	21
Sao Tome and Principe	11	-	11	-
Somalia	10	-	10	-
Uganda	1 000	56	841	103

Table 4 – Number of tourists by country of residence and purpose of visit (concluded)

Country of residence	Total	Purpose of visit (July 2014)		
		Business	Holiday	Study
West Africa	7 765	290	7 172	303
Benin	170	4	165	1
Burkina Faso	48	4	44	-
Cape Verde Island	47	-	46	1
Côte d'Ivoire	171	15	150	6
Gambia	53	2	50	1
Ghana	1 440	56	1 355	29
Guinea	120	2	117	1
Guinea-Bissau	14	-	13	1
Liberia	32	-	27	5
Mali	42	-	41	1
Mauritania	58	3	55	-
Niger	20	1	18	1
Nigeria	5 284	187	4 848	249
Saint Helena	15	-	15	-
Senegal	154	12	139	3
Sierra Leone	54	3	49	2
Togo	43	1	40	2
North Africa	595	43	505	47
Algeria	51	3	45	3
Egypt	277	25	245	7
Libya	40	-	22	18
Morocco	52	6	45	1
South Sudan	61	2	50	9
The Sudan	68	5	56	7
Tunisia	45	2	41	2
Western Sahara	1	-	1	-
Unspecified	1 134	28	1 104	2

Table 5 – Number of tourists from overseas, SADC and ‘other’ African regions by sex and age group

Sex	Age group	Total	Region (July 2014)			
			Overseas	SADC	‘Other’ African	Unspecified
All	Total	724 199	159 368	549 783	13 914	1 134
	<15	41 178	15 538	24 650	978	12
	15-64	659 667	132 085	513 755	12 711	1 116
	65+	23 354	11 745	11 378	225	6
Male	Total	404 114	87 222	307 051	9 166	675
	<15	20 612	8 102	12 020	484	6
	15-64	371 747	72 666	289 886	8 530	665
	65+	11 755	6 454	5 145	152	4
Female	Total	320 082	72 146	242 730	4 747	459
	<15	20 566	7 436	12 630	494	6
	15-64	287 917	59 419	223 867	4 180	451
	65+	11 599	5 291	6 233	73	2
Unspecified	Total	3	-	2	1	-
	15-64	3	-	2	1	-

4. Explanatory notes

NOTICE TO USERS

Statistics South Africa has made changes in the *Tourism and Migration* statistical release starting from the January 2014 statistics. This change has become necessary as a result of the implementation of the new Movement Control System (e-MCS) at the country's ports of entry. Currently the new system (e-MCS) is operational at over 80% of the country's ports of entry. The system roll-out is expected to be finalised by end of 2015/16. The change affects the identification of Transit Travellers that are currently categorised under Direction instead of Purpose of Movement. With the revision, Table 1 and Table 2 in the release now include a category for Transit while all tables reporting on tourists exclude transit travellers.

4.1 Introduction

Legal movements across South African borders as well as legal immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) then processes, analyses and publishes this information.

Administrative data sources from the DHA, that is, information from all the country's ports of entry and applications for permanent residence, constitute the only comprehensive source of information on foreign arrivals and departures, documented immigrants and emigrants. The information from this source of data provides the best national coverage (both in terms of space and time) of the population movements of South African residents and foreign travellers. The data can be used for the followings:

- to estimate, monitor and understand salient characteristics of foreign travellers and volumes of South African residents travelling outside South Africa; and
- to provide information that can be used to (a) assess the extent of government's progress in strengthening bilateral political and economic relations by assessing the number of international tourist arrivals; and (b) benchmark surveys focusing on demand for local tourism services by foreign travellers.

4.2 Purpose of the statistical release

This release reports on arrivals, departures and transit travellers of South African residents and foreign travellers. Detailed information on the age and sex distribution; mode of travel; national and regional distribution; and purpose of travel of overnight visitors or tourists are also provided.

4.3 Scope and coverage

The release covers data collected by DHA officials on travellers who entered the Republic of South Africa (RSA) through all the air, land and sea ports of entry.

4.4 Data

Information published in this release is based on data obtained from the following data sources within the DHA.

- Data routinely collected by immigration officers at all road, air and sea entry ports on all travellers (South African residents and foreign travellers) arriving into or departing from South Africa are captured into the DHA's population Movement Control System (MCS). The counts/statistics relate to the number of individual movements, rather than to the number of people. Hence, the multiple movements of individual people during the calendar month are each counted separately. Generally the data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning or capturing onto the port's electronic database. No forms or cards are used (except in rare occasions when the capturing system is down) to collect information from travellers. Individual ports regularly transmit data onto the national database at the head office of the DHA.

- Stats SA downloads the data covering a particular calendar month from the DHA database.
- As part of data interrogation, data from the O.R. Tambo International Airport, which has the highest volume of travellers, are compared with passenger statistics from the Airport Company of South Africa (ACSA). As expected, in any specific month, an increase in the volume of passengers reported by ACSA has been accompanied by an increase in the volume of travellers recorded by DHA. A similar pattern was also observed when the volume of travellers decreased. However, the volume of passengers recorded by ACSA is generally higher than that of the DHA. In July 2014, the DHA data was 5,0% lower than that of ACSA.

4.5 Limitations

The information on the total number of arrivals and departures of South African residents is collected from the scanning of passports. However, data are not collected from passengers on country visited; country of final destination, the duration of stay; intended duration of stay and purpose of visit. With this limitation, it is impossible to identify the number of tourists from the data on South African residents.

4.6 Definitions of terms

4.6.1 Definitions used by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

Traveller is someone who moves between different geographical locations for any purpose and any duration.

Visitor refers to any person travelling to a place other than that of his/her usual environment for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Same-day visitor is a visitor who visits a place for less than one night.

Tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in collective or private accommodation in the place visited.

Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes. The usual environment of a person consists of a certain area around his/her place of residence, plus all other places he/she frequently visits.

4.6.2 Definitions used specifically in this release

South African resident refers to either a South African citizen or a non-South African citizen with a South African permanent residence permit.

Foreign traveller refers to a traveller who is not a South African citizen or permanent resident.

Region refers to the following country classification:

- Overseas: Europe, North America, Central and South America, Australasia, the Middle East and Asia;
- Africa: SADC and 'Other' Africa (East and Central Africa, West Africa and North Africa).

Country refers to individual countries within a region. The country of residence is used. The country of residence should not be confused with the country from which the visitor travelled.

Africa refers to all the countries in Africa (both mainland and island countries).

SADC refers to the fourteen countries, excluding South Africa, which belongs to the Southern African Development Community.

'Other' African refers to all non SADC African countries.

Overseas refers to all countries outside Africa.

Trip refers to the arrival and departure of a visitor in a specified month.

4.7 Symbols used

- = nil

< = less than

5. General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English.

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